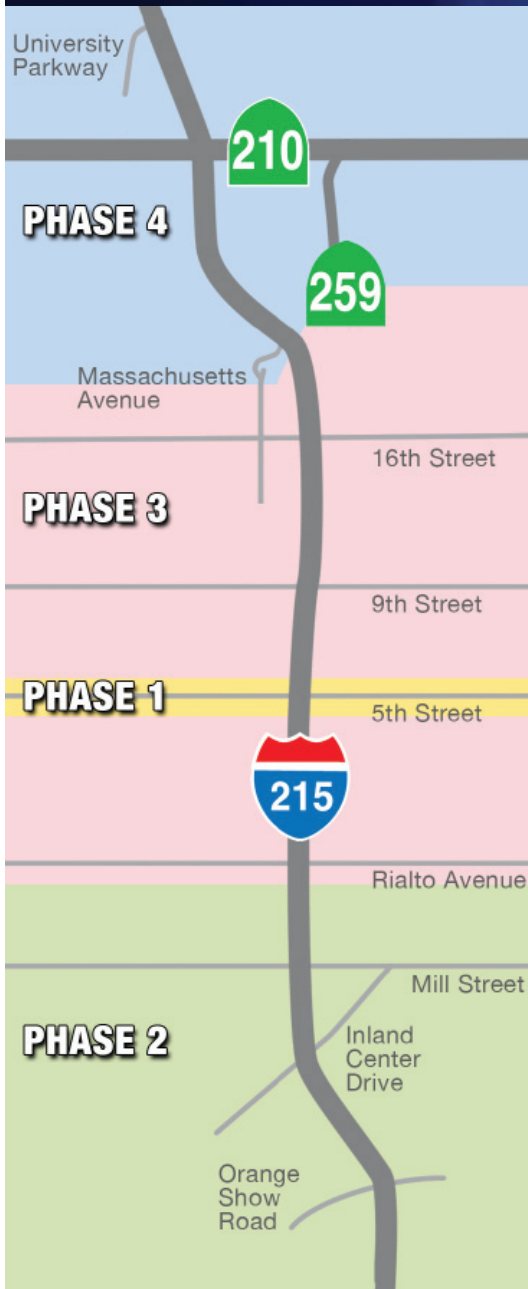




# CRUISIN' THROUGH CONSTRUCTION

Interstate 215 Widening Project, San Bernardino

October 2009, Issue 33



## Open House for Phases 3 & 4 Draws Large Community Turnout



Open house attendees review new freeway configuration with project representatives.

More than 150 business owners, residents, emergency responders, elected officials and representatives, school district officials, and city and state employees attended the October 27, 2009 open house for Phases 3 & 4 of the I-215 Widening Project at the Santa Fe Depot.

The community had an opportunity to engage in one-on-one conversations with management and engineers to learn about the project, address questions, and provide comments in writing.

On display were large 3-D models of Phase 3 & 4 that provided people with a view of how the project will look when completed. Additionally, there was a 20-foot long map of all four phases of the project area – from Orange Show Road on the south end to University Parkway on the north end. Project highlights will include the addition of a carpool lane and general-use lane in each direction, connector ramps providing direct access between I-215 and SR-210, auxiliary lanes to make for safer transitions onto the freeway, and decorative soundwalls and wall treatment designs throughout the corridor that reflect San Bernardino's history.

If you were unable to attend this open house, a second one will take place early next year. The date and location will be published in this project newsletter in the coming months. We look forward to seeing and hearing from you.

## Phase 3 Construction Begins With Area Closures

Construction on Phase 3 has officially begun with crews preparing the project area that spans from Rialto Avenue to Massachusetts Avenue. As part of the construction, the following closures will occur starting Monday, November 2:

**9th Street Bridge** – Closed until late 2010 for reconstruction. As a detour, drivers can travel north or south using H Street to the east and J Street to the west to access either Baseline or 5th Street to cross I-215.

**4th Street On-Ramps** – Closed for crews to construct ramps that allow drivers to access I-215 directly from the 5th Street bridge, eliminating the current 4th Street on-ramps. As a detour, drivers can travel south on H/G Street and turn right at 2nd Street to enter northbound or southbound I-215.

During construction, every effort will be made to minimize impacts to drivers and businesses in the area.

To view traffic advisories for planned lane, ramp and bridge closures, and detours within Phase 3 (between Rialto Ave. and Massachusetts Ave.), please visit the SANBAG Web site at [www.sanbag.ca.gov](http://www.sanbag.ca.gov).

# SANBAG & Caltrans In the Community

October wrapped up as a busy month for the I-215 Widening Project community outreach efforts, which were highlighted by weekly participation at the Harvest Market in Downtown San Bernardino.

The I-215 public outreach team staffed an information table each Wednesday at the Harvest Market in Downtown San Bernardino and engaged in one-on-one conversations with event attendees. It was a good opportunity to support the City's efforts to encourage Downtown pedestrian traffic during the day and to talk to people about the upcoming construction work.

At the beginning of the month, the public outreach team had the opportunity to visit the Arrowhead Farms Neighborhood Association once again to provide residents with an update and to answer questions about the work being done in their area. We are proud of our multi-year relationship with this association and look forward to the next opportunity.

As work gets underway on Phases 3 & 4, we'd like to remind the public that a dedicated public outreach team is available to meet with businesses, organizations, individuals and to staff community events to provide project information. If you or someone you know belongs to a service club, works at a school, organization or business in the area that could benefit from information, please feel free to contact us through the I-215 Helpline at 877-215-NEWS.

Commuter Info/Incentives and Rideshare:  
**(866) RIDESHARE**

Travel Info & Finding a Rideshare Partner:  
**[www.CommuteSmart.info](http://www.CommuteSmart.info)**



Aerial photo of construction work being done at Inland Center Mall.

## Crews Continue Work to Open Inland Center Drive for the Holidays

During the month of October, Caltrans and the contractor continued their focus between Orange Show Road and Inland Center Drive. Crews are working diligently to open the Inland Center Drive ramps before the holiday season.

Until work is completed and the ramps are re-opened, drivers can continue to use Mill Street and Orange Show Road as alternates and follow the detour signs posted. The Inland Center Drive bridge is open to through traffic while work is continuing.

Monthly meetings between Caltrans, local merchants and emergency personnel continue to provide construction updates and to address any concerns. The meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at the Caltrans Annex building at 655 West Second Street in San Bernardino at 9 a.m.

For planned lane and ramp closures within Phase 2 (between Orange Show Road and Rialto Ave.), please visit the Caltrans Web site at **[www.caltrans8.info](http://www.caltrans8.info)**. For the safety of you and the workers, please SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE.



The I-215 widening project is a partnership among San Bernardino Associated Governments, the California Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the City of San Bernardino

## Project Questions?

For questions or to request a presentation about the widening of Interstate 215, call the toll-free helpline, **1-877-215-NEWS**.

